



Brussels, 28.2.2017
C(2017) 1530 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 28.2.2017

**on the selection and award of grants under the Connecting Europe Facility in the sector
of Telecommunications**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, amending Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 680/2007 and (EC) No 67/2010 (hereafter the ‘Connecting Europe Facility Regulation’)¹,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 283/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1336/97/EC (hereafter the ‘Connecting Europe Facility – Telecommunication Regulation’)²,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union³ (hereafter the ‘Financial Regulation’), and in particular Article 133 thereof,

Having regard to the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁴ (hereafter the ‘Rules of Application’), and in particular Article 204 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By Decision C(2016) 1225 of 3 March 2016, the Commission adopted the 2016 Work Programme for financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) - Telecommunications sector.
- (2) On the basis of this work programme, the Innovation and Network Executive Agency (hereinafter referred to as "the Agency") published the call for proposals "CEF-TC-2016-2" on 12 May 2016 with the deadline of 15 September 2016 .
- (3) The Agency received 36 proposals in response to this call.
- (4) Further to checks on the admissibility and eligibility of proposals, 33 proposals were evaluated by independent external experts, out of which 23 were ranked and 10 rejected for not reaching the minimum threshold for one or more of the award criteria, in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 133(1) of the Financial Regulation and Article 204(1) of the Rules of Application.

¹ OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 129.

² OJ L 86, 21.03.2014, p. 14.

³ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

- (5) The Agency authorising officer carried out checks on operational and financial capacity.
- (6) Following this evaluation, and having regard to the available budget, the Commission authorising officer drew up a proposal for a funding decision.
- (7) The decision on the amount of financial assistance to be granted to the project selected requires – under Article 18 of Connecting Europe Facility Regulation – an adoption in *mode décisionnel*.
- (8) The powers to adopt such decisions have been delegated by Commission Decision C(2015) 4172 of 17 June 2015 to the Director-General of DG Communications Networks, Content & Technology.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee set out by Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013.
- (10) As a result, the proposals listed in the Annex should be funded.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The proposals listed in the Annex are selected and awarded a grant, for the maximum amounts set out in that Annex.

Done at Brussels, 28.2.2017

e-signed

For the Commission

Gail Kent

Director of Directorate R

DG CONNECT